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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	B. Case, et al.)	Atty Dkt No:	1000-130
)		
Serial No:	10/828,716)	Examiner:	Alvin J. STEWART
)		
Filed:	August 30, 2004)	Art Unit:	3774
)		
Customer No.:	42715)	Confirmation No.:	4764
)		
For:	ARTIFICIAL VALVE PROSTHESIS WITH IMPROVED FLOW DYNAMICS			

Mail Stop - Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY AND AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116

Honorable Sir:

The following comments and amendments are made in response to the final Office Action mailed on December 31, 2008, in respect of the above-entitled application for patent.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected all pending claims under 35 U.S.C. §103. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.116 and in response to the subject Office Action, Applicants herein amend independent claim 22 solely to present the rejected claims in better form for consideration on appeal.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of the claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.

Applicants respectfully request entry of this after-final amendment under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.116 and reconsideration of the application for patent.